

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 L-03

SAM-01 /055 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:BAFLECK:PAW

APPROVED BY EA:PCHABIB

EA:RHMILLER (DRAFT)

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R 281159Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 102336

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MARR, RP

SUBJECT: MILITARY BASE NEGOTIATIONS

1. FBIS ITEM 59, APRIL 26, REPORTS COLLANTES SPEECH TO MANILA ROTARY CLUB REGARDING BASE NEGOTIATIONS. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT BASES MUST GO IF PHILIPPINES CANNOT DERIVE SUFFICIENT COMPENSATION AND THAT COST OF BASES TO PHILIPPINES HAS BEEN GREAT BECAUSE THEY REPRESENTED DIMINUTION OF GOP SOVEREIGNTY AND AFFRONT TO NATIONAL PRIDE. ALSO ALLEGED BASES HAVE DISTORTED FILIPINO VALUES AND HAVE CAUSED PROSTITUTION TO FLOURISH.

2. WHILE WE EXPECT RHETORIC IN CONJUNCTION WITH NEGOTIATING PROCESS, WE FIND COLLANTES' REMARKS IN STRIKING CONTRAST TO RECENT REASSURING REMARKS OF ROMULO, AND WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY'S COMMENTS. IN COMING PERIOD OF ACTIVE NEGOTIATIONS, WE WILL DEPEND ON EMBASSY TO SCRUTINIZE CAREFULLY THE NUANCES IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STATEMENTS BY GOP OFFICIALS AND TO ALERT US TO PERCEIVABLE CHANGES IN REAL GOP

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INTENTIONS REGARDING THE BASES.

SISCO

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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